

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSION DIRECTIVE**

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	DATE	<u>December 19, 2018</u>
MOTOR CARRIER MATTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOCKET NO.	<u>2018-360-W</u>
UTILITIES MATTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ORDER NO.	<u>2018-831</u>

THIS DIRECTIVE SHALL SERVE AS THE COMMISSION'S ORDER ON THIS ISSUE.

SUBJECT:

[DOCKET NO. 2018-360-W](#) - Application of Carolina Water Service, Incorporated for Approval to Establish a Hydrant Meter Program - Staff Presents for Commission Consideration Carolina Water Service, Incorporated's Request for Approval of Its Application to Establish a Hydrant Meter Program.

COMMISSION ACTION:

On December 5, 2018, the Commission held this matter in abeyance in order for CWS to provide more detailed information regarding how a metered hydrant deters theft and non-revenue water use.

The company has responded, stating that it is an industry wide problem. CWS asserts that developers and contractors connect to a hydrant and take water for their own purposes without paying for it. For example, CWS communicates that its employees recently caught a commercial tanker taking water from a hydrant.

CWS further states that the problem is exacerbated when developers or contractors do not competently connect to the hydrant, which results in additional water loss. Additionally, when water is stolen without the benefit of a meter, the risk of back flow contamination increases.

CWS maintains the proposed Hydrant Meter Program will provide developers and contractors with a lawful means to connect to a hydrant and purchase water while safeguarding the water supply against contamination. The tariff charge will ensure that the developer or contractor is the responsible party that pays for the water usage and is not subsidized by CWS's customers. Moreover, the company argues that while the Hydrant Meter Program will not ensure against all water theft, the existence of the program will give the public the requisite notice of the hydrant meter requirement, providing CWS with the necessary legal authority to prosecute criminal charges against the offender. CWS is hopeful that prosecutions for water theft, and damage to CWS's water system caused by contamination, will deter further criminal activity.

The Office of Regulatory Staff does not object to the Application.

Move to approve Carolina Water Service, Incorporated's Request to Establish a Hydrant Meter Program. Approval of the program does not change current rates for customers nor prejudice the right of any party to address the prudence of these costs in the Company's next general rate case proceeding.

PRESIDING: Randall

SESSION: Regular

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	OTHER
ELAM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ERVIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
HAMILTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
HOWARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
RANDALL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
WHITFIELD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(SEAL)

RECORDED BY: J. Schmieding

